



SATURDAY EVENING, JAN. 8, 1910.

CONTRARY to general expectation the jury in the Corporation Court early last night returned a verdict of murder in the first degree in the case of Henry Smith, colored, indicted with Calvin Johnson, Richard Pines and Eugene Dorsey, also colored, for the murder of Walter F. Schultz, a short distance west of this city last March. While the verdict was a surprise to most people, it seems to meet with affirmation by a majority of this community. The counsel for the defense had argued that inasmuch as Johnson, Pines and Dorsey had been sentenced to the electric chair on Smith's uncorroborated testimony—the prosecution having accepted his version of the affair in toto at that time—that Smith's statement that he was an involuntary party to the murder should be accepted while he was on trial for his life. The commonwealth's attorney, however, said the state had accepted Smith's confession with caution; that the portion which had been credited in connection with Smith's charge against the three colored men had been borne out by circumstances and facts, but that that part of the prisoner's story which exculpated him from voluntary participation in the murder had always been rejected from the fact that it was improbable. There is so much uncertainty concerning the actual facts in connection with this homicide as there was two months ago when the four darkeys were taken into custody. The three men who are to be electrocuted in the penitentiary at Richmond have always asserted their innocence of the crime or any knowledge of it, but the fact that they could not establish alibis, their history and other circumstances were against them. There is a maxim, *ab uno disce omnes*, which did not seem to apply to Smith. That part of his story concerning his movements early on the night of March 6 and 7 and the removal of Schultz from the alley on Cameron street to a point near Rosemont and his statement that he received no part of the money taken from the dead man, were rejected, but his evidence concerning the part he alleged Johnson, Pines and Dorsey played on the night of March 6 was accepted, and upon his evidence their conviction followed. The actual facts in connection with this murder would afford interesting reading. Many persons still believe Schultz was not murdered on the spot where his body was found, and some have always been convinced that he met his fate on the previous night. It is still a mystery which may never be cleared up until the day when that which has been done in secret shall be proclaimed upon the house-tops.

IT WAS said by English statesmen after the close of the revolutionary war that the United States would go to pieces in a colonial row at the first election. It looks as though Great Britain is likely to collapse under the terrible ordeal through which it is now passing as the election in that country draws near. Dispatches from London say that the English political campaign is rapidly degenerating into a series of brawls and unless some more effective means is found of protecting the campaign orators serious consequences are feared. The howling down of the speakers is the most frequent means resorted to. Sir George Armstrong, Lord Ocheysmore and Lord Rochschild, conservatives representing respectively Fishguard, Conventry and Wolverton, are pleading for police protection as a result of the insults hurled at them Wednesday night, which became so violent that their meetings were broken up. Conservatives are getting the worst of the rough treatment, chiefly from the fact that their orators are for the most part aristocrats and personally unpopular and politically inexperienced. Threats of criminal prosecution of the rowdies have so far been ineffective. The overwhelming number of hoodlums at many of the meetings have offset the efforts of the police. Reports from the provinces show that scores of meetings were broken up Wednesday night and that rotten eggs were thrown at the speakers in several instances.

AFTER a month of vacillation during which time he had unsuccessfully tried to harmonize the differences between Secretary Ballinger and Chief Forester Pinchot, President Taft last night dismissed the only course left for him and dismissed Mr. Pinchot and his assistants. It can be contended by the president and his advisors that the dismissal of Mr. Pinchot had become a necessity. The president places it upon the ground of necessary action to maintain the dignity of the presidential office, but Mr. Taft has shown great weakness in the whole controversy and was finally forced to dismiss Mr. Pinchot by Mr. Pinchot himself. In the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy the general belief is that the latter was right and had the honest end of it in any rate.

CANNONISM received a decided shock yesterday, the ranks of that organization having been broken yesterday afternoon by the republican insurgents in coalition with the democratic minority. The root of the regulars was an incident in the proposed investigation of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, when, by a majority of four, the insurgents and democrats blocked the plan of the rules committee for the appointment of the House section of the proposed investigating committee by Speaker Cannon. By a vote of 149 to 145 the joint resolution authorizing the investigation was amended so as to give the House itself the right to name the six members of this committee who are to look after the interests of the House in the probing of the scandals. It was the first blood the insurgents have ever drawn in their long fight with the Cannon forces, and when the announcement of the vote showed that victory had been obtained by a slight but nevertheless decisive margin the democrats and the recalcitrant republicans, whom they were aiding, joined in a demonstration of enthusiasm such as seldom has been seen in the House. It was quite different from the occasion a few years ago when the House loudly applauded when a republican member nominated Mr. Cannon as a presidential candidate. On that occasion the man from Danville swelled with pride; yesterday he coughed upon his desk and gritted his teeth with a determination which showed his resentment of the action of the men he has been endeavoring to read out of the republican party. After the test vote took from the speaker the power to name House members of the committee, the regulars became sullen. Fully recognizing the futility of endeavoring by votes to defeat other amendments offered by the insurgents, the regulars acquiesced in their adoption, and when the joint resolution was put upon final passage it was adopted without a dissenting vote. One of the most important amendments forced upon the leaders by the insurgents was the elimination of a joker which would have shut out Gifford Pinchot, former Secretary Garfield and other former officials of the Interior Department, as well as the forestry service, from representation at the hearing, unless the investigation should elect to call them.

It is announced in London that the tariff on live cattle from Argentina will be removed and that there will be a consequent cheapening in the price of meat. The exorbitant price of meat would be lowered in this country should cattle be admitted free of duty from Canada and Mexico.

From Washington.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)

Washington, Jan. 7. Chief Forester Pinchot today began cleaning out the desk that was once his in the front room of the forestry bureau, and friends of the ex-Chief Forester began furnishing up their trusty banners for the big knock-out. There were those to Washington who say that Mr. Pinchot was not greatly surprised by the topping off of his official head. His letter to Senator Doolittle, read in the Senate on Thursday, could have no other result, they say, and he expected no other. However that may be, it is certain that the "big fight" is now on in real earnest. But also, the congressional probe of the Ballinger-Pinchot dispute so far as it relates to the forestry service will fall rather flat. For the forestry service has been purged clear of every man concerned in the controversy. With Pinchot, Shaw and Pike beyond the pale, the investigation of the forestry service is expected to be but a mockery. The trio however will not be out of the fight. They will appear as private citizens, to see that Secretary Ballinger's Interior Department is thoroughly probed. Orders were today sent to Albert F. Potter, assistant forester, to return to Washington from Ogden, Utah. Potter was named to take charge of the forestry bureau temporarily in the orders dismissing Pinchot, Price and Shaw. Telegrams from all over the country, particularly from the west, began to come in to Pinchot today, assuring him of the confidence of the senders, and promising support. The ex-forester himself refuses to discuss the matter, but smiles pleasantly, says as if he had not been thrown out into the cold world, without a job. What the next move will be can only be conjectured. "I have nothing to say yet," is the only statement that Mr. Pinchot would make this morning when asked to discuss his removal or his plans. The deposed official intimated that he might have something to say later but that he is at present unprepared to make any statement.

Others reap through the halls as Pinchot entered the assembly room of the forestry service office later in the day to take leave of the bureau employees. A score of times in the course of his brief address, he was halted by applause. After paying tribute to the efforts and worth Messrs. Price and Shaw, Mr. Pinchot said: "I cannot say good-bye to the ideals of this work. America for Americans will always enlist my efforts so long as the people of the country feel as they do." As they left the room Mr. Pinchot was the only person with a smile on his face.

The possibility that Pinchot will now assume the role of prosecutor before the congressional investigation committee when the Ballinger-Glavis matter comes up has created a tense situation in Washington. It is regarded here as certain that Pinchot will put in evidence to back up the statement that he made in his letter to Senator Doolittle that the president was mistaken in his action with regard to the Glavis charges. George P. McCabe, solicitor of the Department of Agriculture was temporarily placed in charge of the Forestry Service today by Secretary Wilson, until the arrival of the new Forester. Albert F. Lyter who leaves Utah today to come to Washington at once.

The excitement and work of the Pinchot incident today drove President Taft into the fresh air. He lunched with Senator Burton, and did not return to his office this afternoon. He took a long walk about Washington.

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The biggest financial transaction in the history of the world was consummated today in this city when United States Treasurer Lee McCall signed a receipt for \$1,260,124,946.88; and to Ohas. H. Treat, who was his predecessor in office. For two months a force of employees, under the supervision of a special committee appointed for the purpose, has been busily engaged in counting the coins, notes and securities held by the Treasury Department and for which the treasurer is responsible. The count established is absolutely correct, the record left by former Treasurer Treat.

In addition to intimating that former President Zelaya may be charged with criminal conduct for the execution of the two American Groce and Cannon, president Madrid had carried out further reform, according to dispatches from Vice consul Caldera at the State Department today. He has issued decrees abolishing monopolies, the ordering of private parties to deliver arms to the local authorities and has ordered that confiscated properties be returned to their owners.

It is reported here that Senator John W. Daniel is in such poor physical condition at his home in Lynchburg that he may not be able to return to his duties in the senate for some time.

The agricultural appropriation bill carrying about \$13,000,000, was completed by the House committee on agriculture after hearing Secretary Wilson explain the estimates. Representative Douglas, has given notice that he will attempt to secure more money for the Agricultural Department when the bill reaches the House. Douglas is of the opinion that too much money is spent on war and too little on the arts of peace.

"I told you we'd get him before the session was much older. We can throw him every time we please." This is a bowl of jubilation uttered by Victor Mordock, chief insurgent member from Kansas and echoes with fair accuracy the remarks being made today by the other anti-Cannon republican members of the House. Nearly all of them are saying "I told you so," nearly all of them are protesting that they are just as loyal as ever to President Taft and their party; and nearly all of them are just a little bit nervous as to the outcome of their kicking over the traces—a proceeding which resulted Friday in Speaker Cannon losing temporary hold of his reins and whip, and the adoption of an amendment offered by Representative Norris of Nebraska which gave the House instead of the speaker the power to select the six representatives who will serve with a like number of senators on the committee that is to investigate the loss and ouster of the Ballinger-Pinchot squabble.

The overthrow of the speaker was a very severe jolt for the House organization is conceded by even Mr. Cannon's closest friends, but they assert that it will not happen again. Representative Dwight, the republican whip of the House, is coming in for a large share of blame for the Cannon defeat on Friday. Had he been "up to snuff" some of the speaker's friends are saying, he would have got on to the fact that trouble was brewing. It is not claimed by even the most rabid insurgents that the defeat of the speaker on Friday endangers his position during the present Congress. He will probably handle the gavel, but the adoption of the Norris amendment proves that his reign as "czar" is ended. It shows that he is hanging by his eyelids to his authority and that every time he steps on the corner of a member, he loses one of the eyelashes by which he is depending.

Adoption of the Jones Senate resolution for the investigation of the Interior Department and the forest bureau by a joint committee of senators and representatives will be recommended to the Senate by the committee on public lands Monday. One result of this action, if it is approved by the Senate, will result in reopening the fight over the manner of appointing the House section of the investigating committee. The object is to reverse the action of the House yesterday in taking the appointment of the committee from the speaker and given that power to the House. It is now probable that Mr. Cannon will, after all name the House committee.

Among the measures introduced in the House today were the following: A resolution providing for the adoption of a joint House and Senate committee to investigate the increased cost of the necessities of life; a bill providing for the retirement and pension of government civil service employees; and to provide for the reclamation of letters sent to the dead letter office by the senders within one year of their receipt by the department.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEVITIES.

The offices of Wright and Potter, in Boston, the Massachusetts state printers were badly damaged by fire this afternoon.

A dispatch from Minneapolis, says the machinists on the Northwestern Railroad threaten to strike at any moment.

A dispatch from Chicago says the passenger steamer with her boiler blown out and three others icebound are reported in peril in Lake Michigan today.

The "Girl in the taxicab" who has been holding up people in the residence districts of Chicago for several days, is giving the Chicago detectives a merry chase and today a drag-net has been thrown out for her arrest.

The Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company today announced a general increase in wages of 2 to 5 1/2 cents an hour of all men employed in its train service, effective January 28. The increase will affect 8,000 employees.

Mulai Hañid, sultan of Morocco, is said to be a confirmed morphine user and indulges in wild orgies at his palace in Fez as a result of the drug, according to a story in La Patrie today, the paper declaring that the story is authentic throughout.

The police of Philadelphia, who have been in charge of the search for Roberta Baint de Janon, the young heiress who disappeared simultaneously with Frederick Oberer, a waiter, from the Bellevue-Strafford on December 29, are today declared to have abandoned the case.

Sixty-first Congress.

(Second Session.)

Washington, Jan. 8. SENATE.

The Senate was not in session today HOUSE.

Four resolutions directed to the secretary of agriculture, the secretary of commerce and labor, the secretary of the treasury and the attorney general by Mr. Stinson, asking whether any order had been issued exempting anyone from the operation in the pure food law, caused a tangle in the House today.

Representative Mason reported the four resolutions with answers from the Cabinet officers concerned denying that any such orders had ever been issued.

Representative Stinson asked postponement because he is not ready to discuss the matter. He says he simply wants the cry against alleged laxity in the enforcement of the pure food law stopped by getting at the facts.

In committee of the whole, the House considered the annual army appropriation bill.

The bill calls for an appropriation of over \$5,000,000 of dollars. An increase of a half million over last year's bill was called for because of the increased cost of living.

News of the Day.

A British naval commander has served notice to Nicaragua that there must be no fighting in Greytown, because the majority of the houses in that city are owned by British subjects.

Banking interests of New Jersey, New York and the south are planning a central national bank, to be located in Washington, according to Harrie Jordan, president of the Cotton Growers' Association of Atlanta.

Representative Townsend has been entrusted by the president with the draft of a bill embodying the recommendations concerning changes in the interstate commerce law urged in the message. It will be introduced next Monday.

P. B. Jones, general manager of the Southwestern Publishing House, at Nashville, Tenn., shot and killed his 5 year old child and then committed suicide yesterday. Jones was from Virginia.

Col. William E. Craighill, corps of engineers, who has been in charge of the engineer district of Baltimore, has been assigned to duty as engineer secretary of the lighthouse board at Washington, to succeed Col. Thomas L. Oasty, who will come in Colonel Craighill's place.

L. E. Glavia denies at Portland, Ore., absolutely, that spite instigated his charges against Secretary Ballinger as stated by Attorney General Wickham in the latter's report, and declares that the opinion of the attorney general by no means ends the case.

The town of Bramwell, one of the prettiest towns in the coal fields, of West Virginia was practically wiped out by fire yesterday. There were 24 buildings consumed by the flames, including the Blue Stone Inn, the telephone exchange, and most of the business section of the town. The fire originated in a poolroom, and spread rapidly to adjoining buildings. The loss is estimated at \$100,000, with about \$60,000 insurance. There was no loss of life, but many narrow escapes.

Another paper association, formed by John E. Parks, who pleaded guilty and paid a fine of \$1,000 for his connection with the so-called fiber and Manila pool, was indicted by the federal grand jury in New York yesterday, charged with being an illegal combination in restraint of trade. The federation is the Paper Board Association, comprising 140 prominent paper manufacturers, who are indicted individually in addition to the indictment returned against the association as such. A fine or imprisonment may be imposed on conviction.

The Coal Famine.

Chicago, Jan. 8.—With most of the coal yards in the city down to their last bunkers of coal and the coal famine still more acute today, the rich and poor are suffering alike here. The police and the various charitable bureaus today received scores of requests for relief, but were unable to meet the situation, and many families are today living in the squad rooms of cutting police stations. The railroads are unable to bring in coal owing to the chaotic condition of traffic, and thousands of men have been thrown out of work because the factories were forced to close, there being no coal to keep up steam in the boilers. Dealers are selling buckets of coal at almost double the price charged several weeks ago.

Woman Nearly Severed in Two.

Wheeling, W. Va., Jan. 8.—The discovery today of the body of a young woman, about 18 years of age, and above the average of good looking women, nearly severed in two on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad tracks at Benwood Junction, an adjoining town of Wheeling, and buried in male clothes, points strongly to murder. A man with whom she had been seen a short time before her death has disappeared.

Suffering from a Broken Neck.

Boston, Jan. 8.—Strapped rigidly to a cot in the Cambridge Hospital here Henry A. Belcher, of that suburb, today is fighting for life with about one chance in a million. Belcher fell from a wagon and broke his neck, but went about his business for more than an hour before he knew what was the matter with him.

Earthquake Shocks.

Rome, Jan. 8.—Two severe earthquakes wrought heavy damage today in Gallia, in Calabria. The shocks were of unusual duration and threw the inhabitants into a panic. Many houses were damaged and it is feared there has been loss of life.

The Market.

Georgetown, D. C. Jan. 8. Wheat 106-110

DIED.

At the home of her parents, 429 Wilkes street, on Friday, January 7, at 4.30 p. m., the infant daughter of Oscar Birtel and Laura Sathard, Funeral Sunday evening at 8 o'clock.

IN MEMORIAM.

In sad, but loving remembrance of my beloved father, BENJAMIN GREENWOOD, who departed this life January 9—four years ago.

The midnight stars are beaming Upon my father's grave; Where sleepeth without dreaming, The one I could not save. By his daughter, SARAH CROCKETT.

Today's Telegraphic News

Death of Cardinal Satolli. Rome, Jan. 8.—Francesco Satolli, one of the five cardinal bishops of the Catholic Church, died at 8 o'clock this morning, after a three weeks illness of nephritis. Cardinal Satolli was 71 years old and was raised to the cardinalate in 1895. He was professor of constitutional studies at the time of his death.

For more than two weeks the cardinal's death had been expected. He made frequent rallies but the doctors held out no hope almost from the first. The pope was greatly distressed in learning of Cardinal Satolli's death.

Cardinal Francesco Satolli was born of a noble family in Marsano, archdiocese of Perugia, July 21, 1839. In the course of his career he has made three memorable visits to the United States. He came first as the papal representative to the Catholic Congress and celebration of the centenary of the Catholic hierarchy in November, 1889. His next visit was in October, 1892, when he represented the pope at the Chicago World's Fair under appointment as first apostolic delegate to the United States. It was during this visit that he was appointed cardinal. His third visit, after he attained the rank of cardinal bishop, in June, 1894, was notable for the reason that it was the first time a cardinal was permitted to leave Rome on other than official business.

Charged With Murder.

New York, Jan. 8.—Following the death early today in the Williamsburg Hospital, of Salig Kora, who was shot during the raid by daring stick up men in the bank of his brother, Hyman Kora, in Brooklyn, a charge of murder was today placed against Lejama Mados, aged 17, and John Fisher, his partner, who are held on the charge of committing the bold bank robbery.

The police declare that Mados has been identified as the principal in a number of daring hold-ups in New Jersey and on Long Island. Four suspected members of the gang of which he is said to have been the leader are now under arrest in Newark.

The robbery of the Shonten Cocoa and Chocolate Factory in Newark on pay day of December 21, is also charged to the gang, as is the hold-up of William Kip's gang, who last Tuesday night, was robbed of \$250.

Two Yeggmen Killed.

Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 8.—Two white yeggmen were shot and instantly killed in a duel in the postoffice here today by Paul Sauls, the 17-year-old son of Jim Sauls, the night watchman, who was acting in his father's place. Sauls came on the men as they were "sopping" the safe preparatory to blowing it. He ordered them to "throw up their hands," but instead they opened fire on him. He fired but two shots and both crooks fell dead. Young Sauls was slightly wounded.

Examining Cook's Diaries.

Copenhagen, Jan. 8.—The original diaries of Dr. Frederick A. Cook, containing entries regarding his alleged discovery of the North Pole, are being examined today by the special committee that recently rejected the typewritten evidence that Dr. Cook submitted.

COURT OF APPEALS.

The Court of Appeals yesterday refused a writ of error in the case of the Rice Oil Fruit Farm against George H. Johnson, mayor and others. The case is one that involves the right of the company to make and sell apple cider in the county of Louisa, which is a "dry" county. The company has an enormous orchard in Louisa county, and the surplus of early apples is converted into cider. The town was anxious to prevent the sale of the stuff in the town of Louisa, and so it enacted an ordinance which contained so many restrictions that it was impossible for the company to operate its business with profit. The ordinance was attacked in the circuit court of Louisa and its validity was sustained. The appeal to the Supreme Court ends the matter so far as the courts are concerned.

Bury and others against D. O. Davis, Jr., argued and submitted to the court.

The next cases were submitted on briefs without argument. These were Miller and others against Pennington & Brother and others, and Wood and others against Tinsley and others.

ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE.

Karl Han, former professor of Roman law in George Washington University, Washington, who is under a life imprisonment sentence for the murder of his mother-in-law, Frau Mollter, in 1906, made a vain attempt to escape from the jail at Bruchsal, Baden, Thursday night. A warder's dog upset the prisoner's plan. The animal scented Han in his hiding place and barked until a warder made an examination.

Han, in November 1906, lured his mother-in-law to a lonely street in Baden-Baden and shot her in the back. He was disguised, and fled to Frankfurt, and then to London, where he was arrested and returned to Baden-Baden for trial. He was convicted and sentenced to death, but later the sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. Han is a German.

A sensational feature of the case was the suicide of Han's wife in June following his arrest. She drowned herself in a lake in Switzerland.

A dispatch from Helsinki, Finland, says the Finnish courts today defied the order recently issued by Russia that all legal documents should bear an imperial Russian stamp by accepting documents from lawyers that were not stamped. The stamp act was adopted as a revenue measure.

The death of General Fornes Giaz by drowning, while en route to Managua to treat with President Madrid regarding terms for ending the revolution, will not, it is said, in Managua defeat the plan for peace negotiations in Nicaragua. Madrid today sent word to provisional President Estrada at Bluefield, that he would be glad to open negotiations with anyone of Estrada's choosing and that anyone bearing passports from Estrada would be guaranteed every safety and accorded every courtesy in Managua.

Alone, friendless and surrounded by all the evidences of poverty, Sarah F. Norton, prominent as a lecturer, writer and leader in the cause of humanity, is dead in Troy, N. Y. The deceased was 72 years old. She was a native of New York and was found that she spent two fortunes in the interest of woman.

Fifty years' experience of an Old Nurse Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is the prescription of one of the best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and has been used for fifty years with never-failing success by millions of mothers for their children. It relieves the child from pain, cures diarrhea, griping in the bowels, and wind colic. By giving health to the child it rests the mother. Twenty-five cents a bottle, see 13525.

DRY GOODS.

Woodward & Lothrop
New York—Washington—Paris

Our January Sale of MUSLIN UNDERWEAR

The refined taste of the daintiest women is expressed in this wonderful array of beautiful undergarments. Made from the softest cambrics, muslins, and fine laces and trimmed with laces and embroideries in a variety of patterns for yourself—it presents a most unusual opportunity for every woman to supply her present and future needs. Such undergarments as these at such prices are seldom offered in a white sale. We ask you to come, examine the quality and make of the garments—note the prices, which are the lowest possible for same grades.

Women's Gowns, of muslin, cambric and satin, trimmed with high, low, or V-neck; long and short sleeves; variously trimmed with laces, insertion, wide embroidery, band and ribbons.

\$1.00 each. Value, \$1.50.

Women's Drawers, of cambric and muslin, trimmed with laces and ruffles of embroidery or Valenciennes lace and insertion.

50c a pair. Value, 75c.

Women's White Cambric Long Petticoats, trimmed with flounce of tucks and embroidery or deep tuck flounce and wide hem.

50c each. Value, \$1.00.

Also a lot of Women's Silk Petticoats, made of good quality tulle in black and the fashionable shades, and finished with deep tuck flounce and sectional ruffle.

\$5.00 each. Value, \$6.75.

Third floor—11th st.

Virginia News.

J. Winston Ivey, for many years president of the People's National Bank of Lynchburg, died yesterday of Bright's disease.

H. P. Dalton, a prominent business man and jeweler of Petersburg, was ordained to the ministry of the Baptist Church there Thursday night. He will enter the Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., to complete his studies.

Petitions for an absolute pardon for Charles W. Morse, the New York financier, now serving a sentence of 15 years in the federal penitentiary at Atlanta, for violation of the national banking laws, are being circulated by friends and kinsmen of Morse in Richmond.

Mistaking her for a burglar Jefferson Taylor, a farmer residing at Oak Hill near Cape Charles shot and seriously wounded his wife in their home Thursday night, while she was walking in her sleep. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have been married but three days and the wife had never intimated to her husband that she was a victim of somnambulism.

MUNICIPAL REFORM.

Declaring emphatically for the principles of home rule and local self-government, the conference held in Richmond of mayors of cities of Virginia yesterday unanimously adopted a resolution drawn up by a special committee requesting the state legislature to provide for such change in the constitution of the state as will not require the division of cities into wards nor the continuation of the two-council system, but will permit any city in which the qualified voters so elect to determine on the form of government to be adopted.

Pending the slow process of a constitutional amendment which in any case could not become effective for several years, the conference recommended to the legislature, in accordance with the report of its committee on resolutions, a proposed change in the laws governing cities which will permit of the establishment of administrative boards.

A resolution looking to a reduction of the minimum number of councilmen was amended so as to provide for towns having but one branch to the council so as to read as follows: "Resolved, That the general assembly be requested to amend the laws so as to reduce the minimum number of councilmen to six, and the minimum number of aldermen to three, in cities of the first class; and the minimum number of councilmen to three in cities of the second class."

In the afternoon the committee on resolutions reported the following, which was adopted unanimously: "Whereas there is existing dissatisfaction with section 170 of the constitution, relative to local assessments for public improvements, and with existing laws relative thereto; therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention recommend to the legislature a constitutional amendment, together with proper legislation, allowing to cities greater latitude with reference to local assessments for public improvements."

In order to effect the purposes of the conference and to carry out the ideas advanced, two special committees were named, one to draft the proposed constitutional amendment making municipal government possible, and the other to draw up such laws as are proposed to be submitted to the legislature looking to reduction in the minimum membership of councils and the alternative possibility of the employment of an administrative board.

Mr. J. R. Caton, of Alexandria, was named on the committee on legislation. On the steering committee the following Alexandrians were named: Messrs. Fred Paul, A. D. Brockett, F. S. Harper, W. W. Ballinger and Howard Smith.

The first business of the general conference on convening yesterday morning was the forming of a permanent organization by the election of Mr. John W. Craddock, of Lynchburg, as chairman, and Mr. E. E. Steel, of Norfolk, as secretary.

At the afternoon session on recommendation of the committee on resolutions, two resolutions were adopted the first calling for a statute to require a uniform system of accounting in Virginia cities, both to insure efficiency and regularity and for purposes of comparison between cities. The second requested the legislature to require the auditing by some responsible auditing company, at least once a year, of the accounts of all cities in the state. The aforesaid delegates to the conference have returned.

Two age convicted former employees of the American Sugar Refining Company failed to receive their sentences in the federal court in New York today Judge Martin reserving until Monday his decision on the motion on their behalf for a new trial.

The Lindner Shoe for Ladies fine wear has no equal, John A. Marshall & Bro., 422 King street

PINCHOT DISMISSED.

Gifford Pinchot, chief forester and intimate friend of Theodore Roosevelt, last night was dismissed from the service of the United States by President Taft for insubordination. Associate Forester Overton W. Price and Assistant Law Officer Alexander O. Shaw, Pinchot's immediate assistants in the Forest Service, followed their chief out of government employ.

The roughly indignant over the action of Mr. Pinchot in inducing Senator Doolittle to read a letter from him in the Senate Thursday, President Taft yesterday would listen to no advice that the forester's violation of executive orders be overlooked pending the inquiry soon to be undertaken by Congress. He declared the dignity of the office he had been chosen by the people to fill was being attacked and he would be unfaithful to his trust if he had submitted longer. The president, in an indignant letter, summarily dismissed Pinchot telling him he has "destroyed his usefulness as helpful subordinate of the government" and directs the secretary of agriculture to "remove him from office."

Mr. Taft undoubtedly realizes fully what the dismissal of Forester Pinchot means in a political way. He has been convinced for sometime that the so-called insurgents and other critics of his administration had enlisted the services of Mr. Pinchot and practically were defying him to separate Pinchot from his office. The latter's letter, few in Washington doubt, was written with the direct purpose of putting it squarely up to the president.

Pinchot was appointed chief of the division of forestry July 1, 1898.

His division of forestry was raised to a bureau, July, 1901.

The controversy with Secretary Ballinger followed charges against the latter by L. H. Glavia, in connection with the Cunningham coal claims, in September, 1909.

Glavia was dismissed from the office of chief of the field division of the general land office, September 15, 1909.

The Glavia charges against Secretary Ballinger were made public November 9, 1909.